

Washington, DC—On Friday, Congresswoman Linda Sánchez kicked off her new veterans’ outreach program by naming retired U.S. Army Sergeant E-5 Raymond Ramirez of the City of Whittier as the 39th Congressional District’s first “Veteran of the Month.” Mr. Ramirez is the first recipient of the award and was chosen by the newly created Veterans Advisory Council.



Mr. Ramirez began his military career in 1964 when he enlisted with the U.S. Army and was immediately deployed to Vietnam. He was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the first major ground combat unit of the U.S. Army to serve in Vietnam. Mr. Ramirez exhibited courage and heroism while in combat, earning him awards and medals including the Combat Infantry Badge and the Army Commendation Medal with “V” Device, 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster. His unit also received the Presidential Unit Citation (Navy) for assisting the U.S. Marines in the fall of 1966, and the U.S. Army Meritorious Unit Citation. Upon his return from Vietnam in June of 1967, he was assigned to the 1st Armored Division at Fort Hood, TX.

"Mr. Ramirez’ dedication to our country is inspiring and I was pleased to honor him today," said Congresswoman Sánchez. **"It’s vitally important that we never forget the sacrifices made by our fighting men and women. I look forward to recognizing a new veteran each month."**

Later, Mr. Ramirez attended Rio Hondo College and California State University, Los Angeles. He then worked for several years in the defense industry and then the County of Los Angeles and the City of Commerce for over 25 years.

He is currently an active member of the American Veterans Post 113 (Irwindale, CA) and the Association of the 173d Airborne Brigade, where he is the former President of the Western States, Chapter 10. Notably, he serves on the board of directors for the 173d Airborne Brigade National Memorial Foundation whose “sole mission” is to build a 173d Memorial “on a piece of American soil.”

To honor Sergeant Ramirez’ hard work and dedication to his country, he was presented with a flag flown over the capitol in his name. The presentation took place at Congresswoman Sánchez’ Cerritos office Friday.

Congresswoman Sánchez’ “Veteran of the Month” program is coordinated by her Veterans Advisory Council, comprised of distinguished veterans from across the district. Each month, a

veteran will be recognized for their service overseas and here at home. For more information regarding the “Veteran of the Month Program” please contact Mr. Jamie Zamora at Jamie.zamora@mail.house.gov or (562) 860-5050.

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